

Appln No. 10/769,488  
Amdt date August 6, 2007  
Reply to Office action of February 6, 2007

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A logic ~~development~~ development system using an external microcomputer which replaces [[for]] a built-in microcomputer ~~that is~~ incorporated in an existing electronic control unit ~~for use~~, comprising:

a mother board ~~center block~~ that includes including an application facility ~~block~~ and a first communication facility ~~block~~;

a core board ~~peripheral block~~ that includes including ~~quasi-microcomputer peripheral devices~~ one or more devices which simulate, by software, [[the]] peripheral devices of [[a]] the ~~built-in~~ microcomputer so as to execute an input/output input or output process, the core board further including a computing facility, block and a second communication facility ~~block~~, and that is connected to ~~said center block~~ over a bus;

a peripheral component interconnect (PCI) bus coupling said mother board and said core board; and

an interface board ~~circuit block~~ that includes including circuits equivalent to ~~associated with~~ [[the]] hardware of said electronic control unit, wherein the interface board ~~and that is connected~~ coupled to said one or more devices via a harness ~~peripheral block~~, wherein:

said first communication facility ~~block~~ included in said mother board ~~center block~~ and each of said quasi-microcomputer peripheral devices one or more devices included in said core board ~~peripheral block~~ are connected coupled to each other over said PCI bus; and

said communication facility ~~block~~ and each of said one or more devices transfer data directly to or from each other over said PCI bus.

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2. (Currently Amended) A logic development system using an external microcomputer which replaces [[for]] a built-in microcomputer that is incorporated in an existing electronic control unit for use, comprising:

a mother board center block that includes including an application facility block and a first communication facility block;

a core board peripheral block that includes quasi microcomputer peripheral devices including one or more devices which simulate, by software, [[the]] peripheral devices of [[a]] the built-in microcomputer so as to execute an input/output input or output process, the core board further including a computing facility block and a second communication block facility, and that is connected to said center block over a bus; and

a peripheral component interconnect (PCI) bus coupling said mother board and said core board;

an interface circuit block that includes interface board including circuits equivalent to associated with [[th]] hardware of said electronic control unit, wherein the interface board and that is connected coupled to said quasi microcomputer peripheral devices one or more devices via a harness peripheral block, and wherein:

a bus controller in said computing facility block interposed between said first communication facility included block in said mother board center block and each of said quasi microcomputer peripheral devices one or more devices includes a bus controller; wherein

said first communication facility, block included in said mother board center block and said bus controller are connected coupled to each other over said PCI bus, and said bus controller and each of said quasi microcomputer peripheral devices one or more devices are connected coupled to each other over an internal bus; and

said first communication facility block and each of said quasi microcomputer peripheral devices one or more devices transfer data directly to or from each other by way of said PCI bus, bus controller, and internal bus.

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3. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 1, wherein: a virtual ~~input/output register~~ memory device is interposed between said communication block included in said ~~center block~~ mother board and said PCI bus; and when transfer data is temporarily recorded in said virtual ~~input/output register~~ memory device at the timing of receiving or transmitting data, said virtual ~~input/output register~~ memory device behaves like ~~an input/output register~~ a memory device included in ~~an actual~~ the built-in microcomputer.

4. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 1, wherein: an object on which said application facility block acts is a vehicle; said logic development system includes an ignition switch; and when said logic development system is interlocked with [[the]] an on or off state of said ignition switch, control software for said vehicle is initiated or terminated in the same manner as ~~the one~~ control software residing in said actual electronic control unit.

5. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 4, wherein[[::]] said circuits that are included in said ~~interface circuit block~~ interface board and ~~equivalent to~~ associated with the hardware of said electronic control unit include at least [[on]] one facility circuit in which a microcomputer is incorporated; and said facility circuit is not actuated with the on state of said ignition switch but is actuated synchronously with ~~the timing of~~ starting up of the ~~center block~~-mother board.

6. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 5, wherein said facility circuit includes a power circuit that is actuated with the on state of said ignition switch, and a logic circuit which actuates the microcomputer in the facility circuit [[that]] when both a signal sent from said power circuit and a signal sent from said ~~center block~~ mother board become valid, actuates ~~said~~ microcomputer.

7. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 4, wherein: when said ignition switch is turned off, data that should be held is stored in

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either of a memory included in an external storage device connected coupled to said logic development system [[and]] or a memory included in said logic development system; when said ignition switch is turned on, data that should be held is read from said external storage device and restored; and the same capability as the capability of a backup memory is thus realized for said logic development system.

8. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 4, wherein initial values to ports are set are determined within an initialization routine which is executed on said ~~center block~~ mother board [[until]] when said ignition switch is turned on after the power supply of said logic development system is turned on.

9. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 1, wherein: said PCI bus contains a one-channel interrupt signal line over which an interrupt request is issued from said peripheral block core board to said center block mother board; when said interrupt signal line is activated by said peripheral block core board, said application block included in said center block mother board accepts an interrupt request; and after the interrupt request is accepted, said interrupt signal line is inactivated.

10. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 9, wherein when interrupt handling is terminated, said application block included in said center block mother board checks if said interrupt signal line is inactive.

11. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 10, wherein when interrupt handling is terminated, if said interrupt signal line is active, said application block included in said center block mother board inactivates said interrupt signal line.

12. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 1, wherein: said computing block included in said peripheral block core board includes a facility for temporarily fetching data; when a large amount of data is transferred between said

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~~center block mother board~~ and each of said ~~quasi microcomputer peripheral devices~~ one or more devices included in said ~~peripheral block core board~~, the large amount of data is transferred in a burst mode between said ~~center block mother board~~ and said computing block, and transferred in a non-burst mode between said computing block and each of said ~~quasi microcomputer peripheral devices~~ one or more devices.

13. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 9, wherein after said application block included in said ~~center block mother board~~ accepts an interrupt request, said application block acquires interrupt flags from each of said ~~quasi microcomputer peripheral devices~~ one or more devices over said PCI bus; after said application block acquires interrupt flags, said application block clears the interrupt flags present in each of said ~~quasi microcomputer peripheral devices~~ one or more devices.

14. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 13, wherein after said application block included in said ~~center block mother board~~ acquires interrupt flags, said application block executes a process associated with each of the acquired interrupt flags.

15. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 9, wherein: after said application block included in said ~~center block mother board~~ accepts an interrupt request, said application facility block acquires a plurality of interrupt flags from each of said ~~quasi microcomputer peripheral devices~~ one or more devices over said PCI bus; said application facility block selects one interrupt flag assigned a high priority, and executes a process associated with the interrupt flag; and after the process is completed, said application facility block clears a process completion interrupt flag present in each of said ~~quasi microcomputer peripheral devices~~ one or more devices.

16. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 15, wherein after said application block selects one interrupt flag assigned a high priority, and executes a process associated with the interrupt flag, said application block re-acquires a

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plurality of interrupt flags from each of said ~~quasi-microcomputer peripheral devices~~ one or more devices over said bus.

17. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 13, wherein said interrupt flags are concurrently stored at successive addresses in one of one or more registers included in each of said ~~quasi-microcomputer peripheral devices~~ one or more devices.

18. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 17, wherein: a plurality of ~~peripheral blocks~~ core boards are included; interrupt flags representing interrupts caused by each of a plurality of resources that are included in each of said ~~peripheral blocks~~ core boards are stored in a register included in each of said ~~peripheral blocks~~ core boards; the interrupt flags representing interrupts caused by each of the resources included in the first ~~peripheral block~~ core board are stored in the register included in the first ~~peripheral block~~ core board; and an extension interrupt flag indicating whether interrupt flags, representing interrupts caused by each of the resources included in each of the remaining ~~peripheral blocks~~ core boards, are present is stored in association with ~~each peripheral block~~ each core board.

19. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic ~~development~~ development [[syst  
m]]system according to claim 18, ~~wherein~~ wherein if said extension ~~interrupt~~ interrupt flag demonstrates that interrupt flags are stored in the register included in any of the remaining ~~peripheral blocks~~ core boards, said application block acquires the interrupt flags from the register in the remaining ~~peripheral block~~ core board.

20. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 1, wherein: a plurality of ~~peripheral blocks~~ core boards are included; the first ~~peripheral block~~ core board alone includes a free-run timer; said first ~~peripheral block~~ core board includes at least resources that act synchronously with the timer value of said free-run timer; and the remaining ~~peripheral block~~ core boards include resources independent of said free-run timer.

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21. (Original) A microcomputer logic development system according to claim 20, wherein: the resources that act synchronously with the timer value of said free-run timer include a comparator and a capture unit; and the resources independent of said free-run timer include a pulse-width modulator (PWM), a communication unit, an A/D converter, and ports.

22. (Currently Amended) A logic development system using an external microcomputer which replaces [[for]] a built-in microcomputer ~~that is incorporated in an existing electronic control unit for use~~, comprising:

a mother board center block that ~~includes~~ including an application facility block;  
a core board peripheral block that ~~includes~~ quasi peripheral including one or more devices which simulate, by software, [[the]] peripheral devices of [[a]] the built-in microcomputer so as to execute an input/output input or output process; and  
a peripheral component interconnect (PCI) bus over which said mother board center block and said core board peripheral block are ~~connected~~ coupled to each other, wherein:

when an interrupt factor occurs in any of said quasi peripheral device one or more devices, said application facility block reads or writes data in or from said quasi peripheral device one or more devices; and

data whose processing processing speed is requested to be low is read or written all together together during communication performed before or after [[the]] action of said application facility block.

23. (Currently Amended) A logic development method for a microcomputer ~~requiring~~ including a mother board center block that ~~includes~~ having an application facility block, a core board peripheral block that ~~includes~~ quasi microcomputer peripheral devices having one or more devices which simulate, by software, [[the]] peripheral devices of [[a]] the built-in microcomputer so as to execute an input/output input or output process, an interface board circuit block that ~~includes~~ having circuits equivalent to associated with [[the]] hardware of

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an electronic control unit, and a peripheral component interconnect (PCI) bus over which said mother board ~~center block~~ and said core board ~~peripheral block~~ are ~~connected~~ coupled to each other, said microcomputer logic development method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

issuing an interrupt request from said core board ~~peripheral block~~ to said mother board ~~center block~~ over a one-channel interrupt signal line contained in said PCI bus;

accepting the interrupt request when said interrupt signal line is activated ~~by means of~~ via said ~~peripheral block~~ core board; and

inactivating said interrupt signal line after the interrupt request is accepted.

24. (Currently amended) A microcomputer logic development method according to claim 23, further comprising the steps of:

after an interrupt request is accepted, acquiring interrupt flags from each of said ~~quasi~~ microcomputer peripheral devices one or more devices over said bus; and

after the interrupt flags are acquired, clearing the interrupt flags from each of said ~~quasi~~ microcomputer peripheral devices one or more devices.

25. (New) The microcomputer logic development system of claim 2, wherein the computing block is a microcomputer, and the bus controller in the microcomputer is configured to control flow of information between the mother board and the one or more devices.